GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:328
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2000
JAIL REFORMS COMMITTEE
H.G. RAMULU

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the recommendations of the All India Jail Reforms Committee;

(b) the amount of grant provided for this purpose during 1999-2000 and 2000, till date, State-wise;

(c) the details of reforms already undertaken/proposed to be undertaken, State-wise, particularly in Karnataka?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFF AIRS (I.D. SWAMI)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Darts (a) to (c) of Loka Question No.328 regarding jail reforms committee

(a) to (c) The salient features of the recommendations of the All India `Committee on Jail Reforms headed by Justice A.N.Mulla include inter alia, comprehensive legislation on prison administration, measures for increasing security and discipline, improvement in .living condition of prisoners, rehabilitation programmes for prisoners, special provisions for young offenders and training of prison personnel.

`Prisons` is a State subject and most of the recommendations of Mulla . Committee are to be implemented by the State Governments. There are, however, some recommendations which pertain to the Central Government. The thrust of these recommendations is that the Central Government should assist the States in modernizing prison administration. Following the recommendations of the said committee the Central Government introduced a scheme for Modernisation of Prison Administration under which financial assistance is provided to State Governments to supplement their efforts in improving the condition of prisons and prisoners. The Central Government has also circulated a draft Model Prisons (Management) Bill among States for views. Views have been received from 12 States/Union territories. The remaining States have been reminded.

The following Central assistance was released to the States in the year 1999-2000:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

State	1999-2000
Andhra Pradesh	70
Bihar	30
Goa	10
Gujarat	30
J&K	30
Karnataka	30
Kerala	30
Himachal Pradesh	20
Maharashtra	50
Meghalaya	10
Mizoram	32.5
Orissa	20
Sikkim	34.36
Tamil Nadu	50
Uttar Pradesh	195
West Bengal	40

Funds could not be released to the other States either because their plans were not received or because the utilization certificate of funds released in the previous years was not furnished.

The steps being taken by the various State Governments including Karnataka are as follows:-

(a) Increase in capacity to reduce overcrowding. This includes construction of new jails to increase in capacity of existing jails.

(b) Improvement in sanitation and medical facilities in the jails.

(c) Improvement in living conditions in jails.

(d) Vocational training for prisoners so that they can join the mainstream after release.

(e) Modem security equipment.

(f) Training to the prison staff/officers in line with the modem correctional thinking.